

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The Official Action objected to claims 9-10 for being in improper form because of a multiply dependent claim. However, in the preliminary amendment of December 10, 2004, claims 3 and 9 were amended to each depend from claim 1. Accordingly, there are no multiply dependent claims. Withdrawal of this claim objection is therefore solicited.

Claims 3-10 were rejected under §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. More specifically, claim 3 was rejected due to insufficient antecedent basis for two recited terms. Claim 3 has been amended so as to remedy the statement basis of rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the indefiniteness rejection is solicited.

Claims 1 and 4 were rejected as anticipated by HIGHTOWER et al. 4,010,619.

There were no other substantive rejections.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Official Action indicated that claims 2 and 5-8 were directed to allowable subject matter.

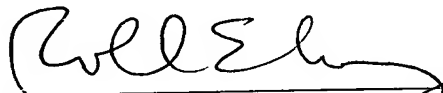
Claim 1 has been amended to include the recitations of allowable claim 2. Accordingly, allowance of claim 1 and the claims depending therefrom (3-16) is respectfully requested.

In view of the above-noted amendments having addressed the outstanding formal matters and claim 1 having been amended to include the recitations of allowable claim 2, applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance and an early indication of the same is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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